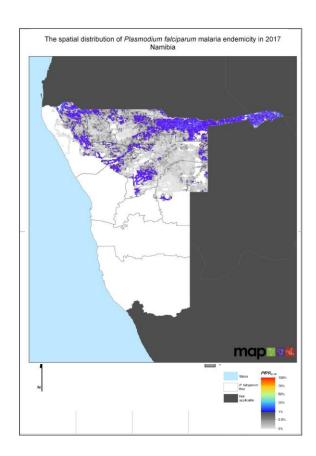
Namibia ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2021



Scorecard for Accountability and Action



100
100
100
Impact
2
4
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8
91
81
69
41
4

Malaria transmission is confined to the north-east part of Namibia where malaria is endemic and about 72% of the population of the country is at risk. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 3,416 with 7 deaths.

Key



Namibia ALMA Quarterly Report Quarter One, 2021



Malaria

Sustaining Essential Health Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic is putting an incredible strain on health systems across Africa. Health systems are required to maintain routine health services for other illnesses even as they handle the additional burden of COVID-19. In order to prevent widespread morbidity and mortality, it is of vital importance that we work to sustain the delivery of essential life-saving interventions during this difficult time including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent health and malaria.

It is essential to ensure the continuity of malaria, RMNCAH and NTD services in 2021 as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact our continent. This may include the implementation of any necessary catch-up activities and ensuring timely planning to account for potential delays in procurement and delivery. Any intervention must ensure the safety of communities and health workers given the ease of transmission of COVID-19.

Progress

Namibia secured sufficient funding for the required number of ACTs, RDTs and IRS for 2021. The country has recently reported the insecticide resistance data to WHO.

In line with the legacy agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, Namibia has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Elimination Scorecard, however this is not yet shared to the ALMA Scorecard Knowledge Hub. The country has established End Malaria Councils at sub-national level.

Impact

The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2019 was 3,416 with 7 deaths.

Key Challenges

- Maintaining malaria high on the political and funding agenda.
- There is a need to strengthen cross border collaboration with neighbouring countries.
- Sustaining the delivery of essential life-saving interventions during the COVID-19 pandemic including for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Adolescent and Child health, malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
Impact	Ensure that malaria services including case management and vector control are sustained and implemented whilst using COVID-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic	Q4 2020		There is currently no stock out of RDTs and ACTs but limited availability of primaquine. The country had insufficient insecticide to complete the 2020 IRS campaign resulting in an overall IRS coverage of just 45%. The country has reprogrammed Global Fund resources to fill some of the gap and is carrying out resource mobilisation to address upsurges in malaria resulting from the low IRS coverage

Namibia has responded positively to the recommended action on addressing the lack of data on iCCM and continues to strengthen access to treatment of malaria, pneumonia

and diarrhoea.

RMNCAH and NTDs

Progress

Namibia has good coverage of the tracer RMNCAH intervention skilled birth attendants and ART coverage in the total population. The country has enhanced tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Namibia is shown using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for schistosomiasis and soil transmitted helminths. Preventive chemotherapy coverage in Namibia is low for both schistosomiasis (0%), and soil transmitted helminths (0%). Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index for Namibia in 2019 is 0, with no change compared with the 2018 index value (0). The country has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms with the development of the NTD scorecard.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

Objective	Action Item	Suggested completion timeframe	Progress	Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report
RMNCAH ¹ : Impact	Ensure that essential RMNCAH services are sustained and implemented whilst using COVID-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic. Address any stockouts of essential RMNCAH commodities	Q4 2020		The country reports that the delivery of essential RMNCAH services continued to be provided at all the health facilities throughout the COVID-19 affected period. However, EPI services were affected as vaccine stock outs were experienced due to delayed commodity delivery
NTDs	Ensure that NTD interventions including Mass Drug Administration, vector control and Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention are sustained and implemented whilst using COVID-19 sensitive guidelines during the pandemic. This includes prioritising key necessary catch up activities	Q4 2021		The country did not organize MDA in 2020 due to the WHO recommendation of waiting for a taeniasis prevalence survey, and is waiting for WHO support. NTD case management activities are being conducted at health facility level by respecting COVID-19 preventive measures

Namibia has responded positively to the RMNCAH recommended action addressing the low coverage of vitamin A, which has recently increased.



¹ RMNCAH metrics, recommended actions and response tracked through WHO